

WAC 296-307-70460 Personal protective equipment.

- Note:**
- Only properly trained employees should select PPE. Hazardous materials technicians and hazardous materials specialists can select PPE within the competencies specified in Table 4.
 - Selection requirements in other PPE rules also apply, including:
 - Chapter 296-307 WAC, Part Y-5, Respirators.
 - Chapter 296-305 WAC, Safety standards for firefighting.

You must:

- Provide employees with appropriate PPE and make sure it is used if hazards could be present.
- Select PPE (such as respirators, gloves, protective suits and other PPE) based on:
 - An evaluation of the performance characteristics (such as breakthrough time and hazardous substance-specificity of the material or item) relevant to the requirements and limitations of the site.
 - Task-specific conditions and durations.
 - The hazards and potential hazards of the site (see Table 9, Selecting PPE for Specific Hazards).
- Select totally encapsulating chemical protective (TECP) suits, as specified in Table 9, that:
 - Maintain positive air pressure.
 - Prevent inward test gas leakage of more than 0.5 percent.

Note: Follow the manufacturer's recommended procedure for testing a TECP suit's ability to maintain positive air pressure and prevent inward gas leakage. Other established test protocols for these suits, for example NFPA 1991 and ASTM F1052-97, may also be used.

Table 9 Selecting PPE for Specific Hazards	
If:	Then use:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inhalation hazards could be present. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive-pressure (pressure-demand) self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) OR • A decreased level of respiratory protection only when the incident commander determines, from air monitoring results, that employees will be adequately protected.
Chemical exposure levels will create a substantial possibility of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediate death. • Immediate serious illness or injury. • Reduced ability to escape. 	Either positive-pressure (pressure-demand): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCBA • Air-line respirators equipped with an escape air supply.
Skin absorption of a hazardous substance may result in a substantial possibility of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediate death. • Immediate serious illness or injury. • Reduced ability to escape. 	Protection equivalent to Level A including a totally encapsulating chemical protective (TECP) suit.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, 49.17.060. WSR 05-01-166, § 296-307-70460, filed 12/21/04, effective 4/2/05.]